

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

---

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for monitoring the trunk of a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a ~~respiring living organism~~ person or animal in the closed trunk of a vehicle;

—detecting the operational condition of the vehicle; and

automatically opening the trunk of the vehicle in response to a predefined safe operational condition of the vehicle and the detection of the respiration of the living organism person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a living ~~organism~~ person or animal includes the step of detecting the CO<sub>2</sub> exhaled by the ~~organism~~ person or animal in respiration.

C1  
C2  
C3  
C4  
C5  
C6  
C7  
C8  
C9  
C10  
C11  
C12  
C13  
C14  
C15  
C16  
C17  
C18  
C19  
C20  
C21  
C22  
C23  
C24  
C25  
C26  
C27  
C28  
C29  
C30  
C31  
C32  
C33  
C34  
C35  
C36  
C37  
C38  
C39  
C40  
C41  
C42  
C43  
C44  
C45  
C46  
C47  
C48  
C49  
C50  
C51  
C52  
C53  
C54  
C55  
C56  
C57  
C58  
C59  
C60  
C61  
C62  
C63  
C64  
C65  
C66  
C67  
C68  
C69  
C70  
C71  
C72  
C73  
C74  
C75  
C76  
C77  
C78  
C79  
C80  
C81  
C82  
C83  
C84  
C85  
C86  
C87  
C88  
C89  
C90  
C91  
C92  
C93  
C94  
C95  
C96  
C97  
C98  
C99  
C100  
C101  
C102  
C103  
C104  
C105  
C106  
C107  
C108  
C109  
C110  
C111  
C112  
C113  
C114  
C115  
C116  
C117  
C118  
C119  
C120  
C121  
C122  
C123  
C124  
C125  
C126  
C127  
C128  
C129  
C130  
C131  
C132  
C133  
C134  
C135  
C136  
C137  
C138  
C139  
C140  
C141  
C142  
C143  
C144  
C145  
C146  
C147  
C148  
C149  
C150  
C151  
C152  
C153  
C154  
C155  
C156  
C157  
C158  
C159  
C160  
C161  
C162  
C163  
C164  
C165  
C166  
C167  
C168  
C169  
C170  
C171  
C172  
C173  
C174  
C175  
C176  
C177  
C178  
C179  
C180  
C181  
C182  
C183  
C184  
C185  
C186  
C187  
C188  
C189  
C190  
C191  
C192  
C193  
C194  
C195  
C196  
C197  
C198  
C199  
C200  
C201  
C202  
C203  
C204  
C205  
C206  
C207  
C208  
C209  
C210  
C211  
C212  
C213  
C214  
C215  
C216  
C217  
C218  
C219  
C220  
C221  
C222  
C223  
C224  
C225  
C226  
C227  
C228  
C229  
C230  
C231  
C232  
C233  
C234  
C235  
C236  
C237  
C238  
C239  
C240  
C241  
C242  
C243  
C244  
C245  
C246  
C247  
C248  
C249  
C250  
C251  
C252  
C253  
C254  
C255  
C256  
C257  
C258  
C259  
C260  
C261  
C262  
C263  
C264  
C265  
C266  
C267  
C268  
C269  
C270  
C271  
C272  
C273  
C274  
C275  
C276  
C277  
C278  
C279  
C280  
C281  
C282  
C283  
C284  
C285  
C286  
C287  
C288  
C289  
C290  
C291  
C292  
C293  
C294  
C295  
C296  
C297  
C298  
C299  
C300  
C301  
C302  
C303  
C304  
C305  
C306  
C307  
C308  
C309  
C310  
C311  
C312  
C313  
C314  
C315  
C316  
C317  
C318  
C319  
C320  
C321  
C322  
C323  
C324  
C325  
C326  
C327  
C328  
C329  
C330  
C331  
C332  
C333  
C334  
C335  
C336  
C337  
C338  
C339  
C340  
C341  
C342  
C343  
C344  
C345  
C346  
C347  
C348  
C349  
C350  
C351  
C352  
C353  
C354  
C355  
C356  
C357  
C358  
C359  
C360  
C361  
C362  
C363  
C364  
C365  
C366  
C367  
C368  
C369  
C370  
C371  
C372  
C373  
C374  
C375  
C376  
C377  
C378  
C379  
C380  
C381  
C382  
C383  
C384  
C385  
C386  
C387  
C388  
C389  
C390  
C391  
C392  
C393  
C394  
C395  
C396  
C397  
C398  
C399  
C400  
C401  
C402  
C403  
C404  
C405  
C406  
C407  
C408  
C409  
C410  
C411  
C412  
C413  
C414  
C415  
C416  
C417  
C418  
C419  
C420  
C421  
C422  
C423  
C424  
C425  
C426  
C427  
C428  
C429  
C430  
C431  
C432  
C433  
C434  
C435  
C436  
C437  
C438  
C439  
C440  
C441  
C442  
C443  
C444  
C445  
C446  
C447  
C448  
C449  
C450  
C451  
C452  
C453  
C454  
C455  
C456  
C457  
C458  
C459  
C460  
C461  
C462  
C463  
C464  
C465  
C466  
C467  
C468  
C469  
C470  
C471  
C472  
C473  
C474  
C475  
C476  
C477  
C478  
C479  
C480  
C481  
C482  
C483  
C484  
C485  
C486  
C487  
C488  
C489  
C490  
C491  
C492  
C493  
C494  
C495  
C496  
C497  
C498  
C499  
C500  
C501  
C502  
C503  
C504  
C505  
C506  
C507  
C508  
C509  
C510  
C511  
C512  
C513  
C514  
C515  
C516  
C517  
C518  
C519  
C520  
C521  
C522  
C523  
C524  
C525  
C526  
C527  
C528  
C529  
C530  
C531  
C532  
C533  
C534  
C535  
C536  
C537  
C538  
C539  
C540  
C541  
C542  
C543  
C544  
C545  
C546  
C547  
C548  
C549  
C550  
C551  
C552  
C553  
C554  
C555  
C556  
C557  
C558  
C559  
C560  
C561  
C562  
C563  
C564  
C565  
C566  
C567  
C568  
C569  
C570  
C571  
C572  
C573  
C574  
C575  
C576  
C577  
C578  
C579  
C580  
C581  
C582  
C583  
C584  
C585  
C586  
C587  
C588  
C589  
C590  
C591  
C592  
C593  
C594  
C595  
C596  
C597  
C598  
C599  
C600  
C601  
C602  
C603  
C604  
C605  
C606  
C607  
C608  
C609  
C610  
C611  
C612  
C613  
C614  
C615  
C616  
C617  
C618  
C619  
C620  
C621  
C622  
C623  
C624  
C625  
C626  
C627  
C628  
C629  
C630  
C631  
C632  
C633  
C634  
C635  
C636  
C637  
C638  
C639  
C640  
C641  
C642  
C643  
C644  
C645  
C646  
C647  
C648  
C649  
C650  
C651  
C652  
C653  
C654  
C655  
C656  
C657  
C658  
C659  
C660  
C661  
C662  
C663  
C664  
C665  
C666  
C667  
C668  
C669  
C670  
C671  
C672  
C673  
C674  
C675  
C676  
C677  
C678  
C679  
C680  
C681  
C682  
C683  
C684  
C685  
C686  
C687  
C688  
C689  
C690  
C691  
C692  
C693  
C694  
C695  
C696  
C697  
C698  
C699  
C700  
C701  
C702  
C703  
C704  
C705  
C706  
C707  
C708  
C709  
C710  
C711  
C712  
C713  
C714  
C715  
C716  
C717  
C718  
C719  
C720  
C721  
C722  
C723  
C724  
C725  
C726  
C727  
C728  
C729  
C730  
C731  
C732  
C733  
C734  
C735  
C736  
C737  
C738  
C739  
C740  
C741  
C742  
C743  
C744  
C745  
C746  
C747  
C748  
C749  
C750  
C751  
C752  
C753  
C754  
C755  
C756  
C757  
C758  
C759  
C760  
C761  
C762  
C763  
C764  
C765  
C766  
C767  
C768  
C769  
C770  
C771  
C772  
C773  
C774  
C775  
C776  
C777  
C778  
C779  
C780  
C781  
C782  
C783  
C784  
C785  
C786  
C787  
C788  
C789  
C790  
C791  
C792  
C793  
C794  
C795  
C796  
C797  
C798  
C799  
C800  
C801  
C802  
C803  
C804  
C805  
C806  
C807  
C808  
C809  
C810  
C811  
C812  
C813  
C814  
C815  
C816  
C817  
C818  
C819  
C820  
C821  
C822  
C823  
C824  
C825  
C826  
C827  
C828  
C829  
C830  
C831  
C832  
C833  
C834  
C835  
C836  
C837  
C838  
C839  
C840  
C841  
C842  
C843  
C844  
C845  
C846  
C847  
C848  
C849  
C850  
C851  
C852  
C853  
C854  
C855  
C856  
C857  
C858  
C859  
C860  
C861  
C862  
C863  
C864  
C865  
C866  
C867  
C868  
C869  
C870  
C871  
C872  
C873  
C874  
C875  
C876  
C877  
C878  
C879  
C880  
C881  
C882  
C883  
C884  
C885  
C886  
C887  
C888  
C889  
C890  
C891  
C892  
C893  
C894  
C895  
C896  
C897  
C898  
C899  
C900  
C901  
C902  
C903  
C904  
C905  
C906  
C907  
C908  
C909  
C910  
C911  
C912  
C913  
C914  
C915  
C916  
C917  
C918  
C919  
C920  
C921  
C922  
C923  
C924  
C925  
C926  
C927  
C928  
C929  
C930  
C931  
C932  
C933  
C934  
C935  
C936  
C937  
C938  
C939  
C940  
C941  
C942  
C943  
C944  
C945  
C946  
C947  
C948  
C949  
C950  
C951  
C952  
C953  
C954  
C955  
C956  
C957  
C958  
C959  
C960  
C961  
C962  
C963  
C964  
C965  
C966  
C967  
C968  
C969  
C970  
C971  
C972  
C973  
C974  
C975  
C976  
C977  
C978  
C979  
C980  
C981  
C982  
C983  
C984  
C985  
C986  
C987  
C988  
C989  
C990  
C991  
C992  
C993  
C994  
C995  
C996  
C997  
C998  
C999  
C1000  
C1001  
C1002  
C1003  
C1004  
C1005  
C1006  
C1007  
C1008  
C1009  
C1010  
C1011  
C1012  
C1013  
C1014  
C1015  
C1016  
C1017  
C1018  
C1019  
C1020  
C1021  
C1022  
C1023  
C1024  
C1025  
C1026  
C1027  
C1028  
C1029  
C1030  
C1031  
C1032  
C1033  
C1034  
C1035  
C1036  
C1037  
C1038  
C1039  
C1040  
C1041  
C1042  
C1043  
C1044  
C1045  
C1046  
C1047  
C1048  
C1049  
C1050  
C1051  
C1052  
C1053  
C1054  
C1055  
C1056  
C1057  
C1058  
C1059  
C1060  
C1061  
C1062  
C1063  
C1064  
C1065  
C1066  
C1067  
C1068  
C1069  
C1070  
C1071  
C1072  
C1073  
C1074  
C1075  
C1076  
C1077  
C1078  
C1079  
C1080  
C1081  
C1082  
C1083  
C1084  
C1085  
C1086  
C1087  
C1088  
C1089  
C1090  
C1091  
C1092  
C1093  
C1094  
C1095  
C1096  
C1097  
C1098  
C1099  
C1100  
C1101  
C1102  
C1103  
C1104  
C1105  
C1106  
C1107  
C1108  
C1109  
C1110  
C1111  
C1112  
C1113  
C1114  
C1115  
C1116  
C1117  
C1118  
C1119  
C1120  
C1121  
C1122  
C1123  
C1124  
C1125  
C1126  
C1127  
C1128  
C1129  
C1130  
C1131  
C1132  
C1133  
C1134  
C1135  
C1136  
C1137  
C1138  
C1139  
C1140  
C1141  
C1142  
C1143  
C1144  
C1145  
C1146  
C1147  
C1148  
C1149  
C1150  
C1151  
C1152  
C1153  
C1154  
C1155  
C1156  
C1157  
C1158  
C1159  
C1160  
C1161  
C1162  
C1163  
C1164  
C1165  
C1166  
C1167  
C1168  
C1169  
C1170  
C1171  
C1172  
C1173  
C1174  
C1175  
C1176  
C1177  
C1178  
C1179  
C1180  
C1181  
C1182  
C1183  
C1184  
C1185  
C1186  
C1187  
C1188  
C1189  
C1190  
C1191  
C1192  
C1193  
C1194  
C1195  
C1196  
C1197  
C1198  
C1199  
C1200  
C1201  
C1202  
C1203  
C1204  
C1205  
C1206  
C1207  
C1208  
C1209  
C1210  
C1211  
C1212  
C1213  
C1214  
C1215  
C1216  
C1217  
C1218  
C1219  
C1220  
C1221  
C1222  
C1223  
C1224  
C1225  
C1226  
C1227  
C1228  
C1229  
C1230  
C1231  
C1232  
C1233  
C1234  
C1235  
C1236  
C1237  
C1238  
C1239  
C1240  
C1241  
C1242  
C1243  
C1244  
C1245  
C1246  
C1247  
C1248  
C1249  
C1250  
C1251  
C1252  
C1253  
C1254  
C1255  
C1256  
C1257  
C1258  
C1259  
C1260  
C1261  
C1262  
C1263  
C1264  
C1265  
C1266  
C1267  
C1268  
C1269  
C1270  
C1271  
C1272  
C1273  
C1274  
C1275  
C1276  
C1277  
C1278  
C1279  
C1280  
C1281  
C1282  
C1283  
C1284  
C1285  
C1286  
C1287  
C1288  
C1289  
C1290  
C1291  
C1292  
C1293  
C1294  
C1295  
C1296  
C1297  
C1298  
C1299  
C1300  
C1301  
C1302  
C1303  
C1304  
C1305  
C1306  
C1307  
C1308  
C1309  
C1310  
C1311  
C1312  
C1313  
C1314  
C1315  
C1316  
C1317  
C1318  
C1319  
C1320  
C1321  
C1322  
C1323  
C1324  
C1325  
C1326  
C1327  
C1328  
C1329  
C1330  
C1331  
C1332  
C1333  
C1334  
C1335  
C1336  
C1337  
C1338  
C1339  
C1340  
C1341  
C1342  
C1343  
C1344  
C1345  
C1346  
C1347  
C1348  
C1349  
C1350  
C1351  
C1352  
C1353  
C1354  
C1355  
C1356  
C1357  
C1358  
C1359  
C1360  
C1361  
C1362  
C1363  
C1364  
C1365  
C1366  
C1367  
C1368  
C1369  
C1370  
C1371  
C1372  
C1373  
C1374  
C1375  
C1376  
C1377  
C1378  
C1379  
C1380  
C1381  
C1382  
C1383  
C1384  
C1385  
C1386  
C1387  
C1388  
C1389  
C1390  
C1391  
C1392  
C1393  
C1394  
C1395  
C1396  
C1397  
C1398  
C1399  
C1400  
C1401  
C1402  
C1403  
C1404  
C1405  
C1406  
C1407  
C1408  
C1409  
C1410  
C1411  
C1412  
C1413  
C1414  
C1415  
C1416  
C1417  
C1418  
C1419  
C1420  
C1421  
C1422  
C1423  
C1424  
C1425  
C1426  
C1427  
C1428  
C1429  
C1430  
C1431  
C1432  
C1433  
C1434  
C1435  
C1436  
C1437  
C1438  
C1439  
C1440  
C1441  
C1442  
C1443  
C1444  
C1445  
C1446  
C1447  
C1448  
C1449  
C1450  
C1451  
C1452  
C1453  
C1454  
C1455  
C1456  
C1457  
C1458  
C1459  
C1460  
C1461  
C1462  
C1463  
C1464  
C1465  
C1466  
C1467  
C1468  
C1469  
C1470  
C1471  
C1472  
C1473  
C1474  
C1475  
C1476  
C1477  
C1478  
C1479  
C1480  
C1481  
C1482  
C1483  
C1484  
C1485  
C1486  
C1487  
C1488  
C1489  
C1490  
C1491  
C1492  
C1493  
C1494  
C1495  
C1496  
C1497  
C1498  
C1499  
C1500  
C1501  
C1502  
C1503  
C1504  
C1505  
C1506  
C1507  
C1508  
C1509  
C1510  
C1511  
C1512  
C1513  
C1514  
C1515  
C1516  
C1517  
C1518  
C1519  
C1520  
C1521  
C1522  
C1523  
C1524  
C1525  
C1526  
C1527  
C1528  
C1529  
C1530  
C1531  
C1532  
C1533  
C1534  
C1535  
C1536  
C1537  
C1538  
C1539  
C1540  
C1541  
C1542  
C1543  
C1544  
C1545  
C1546  
C1547  
C1548  
C1549  
C1550  
C1551  
C1552  
C1553  
C1554  
C1555  
C1556  
C1557  
C1558  
C1559  
C1560  
C1561  
C1562  
C1563  
C1564  
C1565  
C1566  
C1567  
C1568  
C1569  
C1570  
C1571  
C1572  
C1573  
C1574  
C1575  
C1576  
C1577  
C1578  
C1579  
C1580  
C1581  
C1582  
C1583  
C1584  
C1585  
C1586  
C1587  
C1588  
C1589  
C1590  
C1591  
C1592  
C1593  
C1594  
C1595  
C1596  
C1597  
C1598  
C1599  
C1600  
C1601  
C1602  
C1603  
C1604  
C1605  
C1606  
C1607  
C1608  
C1609  
C1610  
C1611  
C1612  
C1613  
C1614  
C1615  
C1616  
C1617  
C1618  
C1619  
C1620  
C1621  
C1622  
C1623  
C1624  
C1625  
C1626  
C1627  
C1628  
C1629  
C1630  
C1631  
C1632  
C1633  
C1634  
C1635  
C1636  
C1637  
C1638  
C1639  
C1640  
C1641  
C1642  
C1643  
C1644  
C1645  
C1646  
C1647  
C1648  
C1649  
C1650  
C1651  
C1652  
C1653  
C1654  
C1655  
C1656  
C1657  
C1658  
C1659  
C1660  
C1661  
C1662  
C1663  
C1664  
C1665  
C1666  
C1667  
C1668  
C1669  
C1670  
C1671  
C1672  
C1673  
C1674  
C1675  
C1676  
C1677  
C1678  
C1679  
C1680  
C1681  
C1682  
C1683  
C1684  
C1685  
C1686  
C1687  
C1688  
C1689  
C1690  
C1691  
C1692  
C1693  
C1694  
C1695  
C1696  
C1697  
C1698  
C1699  
C1700  
C1701  
C1702  
C1703  
C1704  
C1705  
C1706  
C1707  
C1708  
C1709  
C1710  
C1711  
C1712  
C1713  
C1714  
C1715  
C1716  
C1717  
C1718  
C1719  
C1720  
C1721  
C1722  
C1723  
C1724  
C1725  
C1726  
C1727  
C1728  
C1729  
C1730  
C1731  
C1732  
C1733  
C1734  
C1735  
C1736  
C1737  
C1738  
C1739  
C1740  
C1741  
C1742  
C1743  
C1744  
C1745  
C1746  
C1747  
C1748  
C1749  
C1750  
C1751  
C1752  
C1753  
C1754  
C1755  
C1756  
C1757  
C1758  
C1759  
C1760  
C1761  
C1762  
C1763  
C1764  
C1765  
C1766  
C1767  
C1768  
C1769  
C1770  
C1771  
C1772  
C1773  
C1774  
C1775  
C1776  
C1777  
C1778  
C1779  
C1780  
C1781  
C1782  
C1783  
C1784  
C1785  
C1786  
C1787  
C1788  
C1789  
C1790  
C1791  
C1792  
C1793  
C1794  
C1795  
C1796  
C1797  
C1798  
C1799  
C1800  
C1801  
C1802  
C1803  
C1804  
C1805  
C1806  
C1807  
C1808  
C1809  
C1810  
C1811  
C1812  
C1813  
C1814  
C1815  
C1816  
C1817  
C1818  
C1819  
C1820  
C1821  
C1822  
C1823  
C1824  
C1825  
C1826  
C1827  
C1828  
C1829  
C1830  
C1831  
C1832  
C1833  
C1834  
C1835  
C1836  
C1837  
C1838  
C1839  
C1840  
C1841  
C1842  
C1843  
C1844

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further including the steps of providing a lighted switch in the trunk; and having a person in the trunk manually activate the switch to open the trunk from the inside.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 17, further including the steps of providing a lighted switch in the trunk; and having a person in the trunk manually activate the switch to open the trunk from the inside.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 20, including a lighted switch disposed in the trunk for manually opening the trunk from the inside.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of automatically opening the trunk of the vehicle when the vehicle is stopped and a living ~~organism~~ person or animal is detected in the trunk.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of providing an alarm but not opening the trunk when a living ~~organism~~ person or animal is detected in the trunk and the vehicle is moving.

01  
cont.  
Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of providing an alarm but not opening the trunk when a living ~~organism~~ person or animal is detected in the trunk and a back seat of the vehicle is unlatched to ventilate the trunk.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of providing an audible alarm in the vehicle in response to detecting a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of providing a visible alarm in the vehicle in response to detecting a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of providing an alarm signal to a security center in response to detecting a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including the step of activating the horn of the vehicle in response to detecting a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including flashing the headlights of the vehicle in response to detecting a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method for determining the ~~presence~~ respiration of a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in an enclosure, comprising the steps of:

ventilating the enclosure to ambient air and automatically sensing a base line concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the vented enclosure;

CI  
cont.  
closing the enclosure to ambient air and automatically sensing an increase in the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> above said base line concentration for a predetermined time after the enclosure is closed to ambient air; and

providing a rescue operation in response to detecting CO<sub>2</sub> above said base line concentration which is consistent with what would be produced by respiration of a living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the closed enclosure.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of claim 16, further including the steps of using a vehicle trunk as the enclosure and automatically opening the trunk of the vehicle as a rescue operation when the vehicle is stationary.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 16, further including the steps of using a passenger compartment of a vehicle as the enclosure and automatically ventilating the compartment as a rescue operation.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method of claim 16, further including the step of detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a living ~~organism~~ person or animal when the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the closed enclosure exceeds the base line concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> by a predetermined amount for a predetermined time.

Claim 20 (original): An apparatus for sensing the presence of a person in the trunk of a vehicle, comprising:

a CO<sub>2</sub> sensor for detecting a baseline concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> after the trunk has been opened and the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> for a time after the trunk is closed; and

a microcontroller for comparing the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> when the trunk is closed to the baseline concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> and generating an alarm indicating the presence of a person in the trunk when the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the closed trunk exceeds the baseline concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> by a predetermined amount for a predetermined time.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 20, including means for sensing the movement of the vehicle and means for opening the trunk when a person is sensed in the trunk and the vehicle is stopped.

CI  
cont.  
Claim 22 (previously presented): A method for determining the presence of a person in a closed trunk of a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

sensing a base line concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the trunk with at least one opening  
to ambient air;

sensing an increase in concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> above said base line concentration when the trunk is closed to ambient air; and

generating an alarm in response to detecting CO<sub>2</sub> above said base line concentration which is consistent with what would be produced by respiration of a person in the closed trunk.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, further including the steps of ventilating the trunk in response to said alarm.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 22, further including the step of ventilating the trunk in response to said alarm and the detection of a predefined temperature in the closed trunk.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including providing an alarm when the ~~presence~~ respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal is detected.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, including providing an alarm when the ~~presence~~ respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal is detected and selecting the type of alarm based upon the operational condition of the vehicle.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method for controlling a vehicle having a compartment that is opened and closed, comprising the steps of:

detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a ~~respiring~~ living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the closed compartment of the vehicle;

detecting the operational condition of the vehicle; and

CI  
cont.  
automatically opening the compartment of the vehicle to ambient air in response to a predefined operational condition of the vehicle and the detection of the respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the compartment.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method for controlling a vehicle having a trunk that is opened and closed, comprising the steps of:

detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a ~~respiring~~ living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the closed trunk of the vehicle;

detecting the operational condition of the vehicle;

automatically selecting at least one of a plurality of alarms based upon the operational condition of the vehicle and the detected ~~presence~~ respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk; and

activating the at least one selected alarm.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A method for controlling a vehicle having a trunk that is selectively opened and closed, comprising the steps of:

detecting the ~~presence~~ respiration of a ~~respiring~~ living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the closed trunk of the vehicle; and

automatically opening the trunk in response to at least detecting the respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method for detecting an unsafe condition within a trunk of a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

disposing a living ~~organism~~ person or animal within the closed trunk of the vehicle; and

detecting the respiration of the living ~~organism~~ person or animal in the trunk.

CI  
cont.  
Claim 31 (currently amended): A detection system for use within a vehicle of the type having a trunk which is selectively movable between an open and a closed position, said detection system being adapted to detect the ~~presence~~ breathing of a breathing individual within said trunk, said detection system comprising:

a breathing detector which is disposed within said trunk, which is adapted to detect the breathing of said individual, and which generates a signal upon the detection of said breathing; and

a controller assembly which is communicatively coupled to said breathing detector, which receives said signal, and which opens said trunk upon receipt of said signal.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, wherein carbon dioxide is emitted by said individual as said individual breathes and wherein said breathing detector detects the presence of said carbon dioxide within said trunk.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, wherein said vehicle is of the further type which includes an ignition switch which may be selectively moved to a certain position and wherein said controller assembly is coupled to said ignition switch, senses said placement of said ignition switch in said certain position, and causes said

trunk to be opened in response to said signal from said breathing detector only if said ignition switch is placed in said certain position.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, wherein said vehicle is of the type which is selectively driven and wherein said controller assembly prevents said trunk from being open when said vehicle is driven.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, further including an illuminated switch which is disposed within said trunk, which is coupled to said controller assembly, and which selectively communicates a second signal to said controller assembly upon being touched.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 35, wherein said controller assembly, upon receipt of said second signal, opens said trunk.

CI  
cont.  
Claim 37 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 32, wherein said breathing detector measures the amount of carbon dioxide which is resident within said trunk, stores a certain value, compares said measured amount of carbon dioxide to said certain value, and generates said signal only if said measured amount of said carbon dioxide is greater than said certain value.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, wherein said controller assembly further includes a timer which allows said detection system to be operable for a certain period of time.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The detection system of claim 31, wherein said individual comprises a child.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A method for detecting the presence of a child within a trunk of a vehicle, said method comprising the steps of:

measuring an amount of carbon-dioxide within said trunk of said vehicle; and

using said measured amount of carbon dioxide to determine the presence of said child within said trunk of said vehicle.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 40, further comprising the step of detecting said presence of said child only when said vehicle is stationary.

Claim 42 (currently amended): An assembly for detecting the presence of an individual within a trunk of a vehicle, said assembly comprising:

CI could. a sensor which is mounted within said trunk and that detects the occurrence of breathing ~~at least one bodily function~~ of said individual; and

a controller assembly which is communicatively coupled to said sensor and which provides a signal when said sensor detects the occurrence of breathing ~~at least one bodily function~~ of said individual, ~~wherein said at least one bodily function comprises breathing.~~

Claim 43 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 42, wherein said sensor comprises a carbon dioxide sensor.

---